

POSITIONS AND AREAS OF SUN SPOTS—Continued

Date	Eastern standard time	Mt. Wilson group number	Heliographic			Area		Total area for each day	Observatory
			Diff. in longitude	Longitude	Latitude	Spot	Group		
1937 Dec. 29...	h. m. 11 55	5712	o	92.9	-16.0	48	-----	-----	Do.
		5704	-32.0	105.9	+12.5	194	-----	-----	
		5707	-19.0	115.9	+19.0	24	-----	-----	
		5711	-9.0	115.9	+14.5	12	-----	-----	
		5710	+8.0	132.9	-14.5	36	-----	-----	
		5699	+23.0	147.9	-11.0	242	-----	-----	
		5703	+26.0	150.9	-20.0	582	-----	-----	
		5702	+30.0	154.9	+10.0	38	-----	-----	
		5695	+59.0	183.9	+10.0	104	1,368	-----	
Dec. 30...	12 12	5712	-19.0	92.5	-15.0	97	-----	-----	Mt. Wilson.
		5704	-6.0	105.5	+13.0	194	-----	-----	
		5707	+7.5	119.0	+19.0	24	-----	-----	
		5710	+22.0	133.5	-14.5	36	-----	-----	
		5709	+26.0	137.5	-16.0	24	-----	-----	
		5699	+36.0	147.5	-11.0	242	-----	-----	
		5703	+39.0	150.5	-21.0	485	-----	-----	
		5702	+45.0	156.5	+10.0	36	-----	-----	
		5695	+70.0	181.5	+9.0	97	1,235	-----	
Dec. 31...	11 20	5713	-75.0	23.8	+5.0	388	-----	-----	U. S. Naval.
		5712	-7.0	91.8	-15.0	145	-----	-----	
		5704	+9.0	107.8	+12.5	97	-----	-----	
		5707	+20.0	118.8	+19.5	73	-----	-----	
		5710	+37.0	135.8	-14.5	24	-----	-----	
		5709	+40.0	138.8	-15.0	48	-----	-----	
		5699	+50.0	148.8	-11.0	242	-----	-----	
		5703	+53.0	151.8	-20.0	339	-----	-----	
		5702	+58.0	156.8	+11.0	24	1,380	-----	

Mean daily area for 30 days = 1,252.

AEROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

[Aerological Division, D. M. LITTLE in Charge]

By LOYD A. STEVENS

Mean free-air data, based on airplane weather observations during December 1937, are given in tables 1 to 3. A description of the methods by which the various monthly means and normals therein are computed may be found in the aerological sections of the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW for January and March 1937.

It will be noted that many of the "normals" are based on only 3 years of observations. Conclusions based on departures from such short period "normals" must be used with caution.

The mean surface temperatures for December (see chart I) were, in general, above normal over the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast regions and over portions of the North Atlantic and southern New England States; elsewhere they were below normal. The greatest positive departures ($+3^{\circ}$ C. to $+4^{\circ}$ C.) occurred over portions of the Rocky Mountains while the greatest negative departures (-1° C. to -2° C.) occurred over a region whose center was approximately over the state of Illinois.

With a few exceptions, the mean free-air temperatures for the month, up to 5 kilometers, were below normal. The most significant exception occurred over Oakland, Calif., where the temperature was above normal at all levels, the greatest positive departure from normal ($+1.5^{\circ}$ C.) occurring at 0.5 and 1 kilometer. The greatest negative departures at all levels occurred over the region of the Great Lakes (-4.3° C. at Sault Ste. Marie at 1.5 km) with a secondary center of large negative departures over Spokane, Wash. (-3.0° C. at 4 and 5 km) in the higher levels. The highest mean temperatures occurred over San Diego up to 2 kilometers and over Pensacola above 2 kilometers. The lowest mean temperatures occurred over Fargo at 0.5 kilometer and over Sault Ste. Marie at all other levels. The mean free-air temperatures for December were lower than for November

PROVISIONAL SUNSPOT RELATIVE NUMBERS.

DECEMBER 1937

[Dependent alone on observations at Zurich and its station at Arosa]

[Furnished through the courtesy of Prof. W. Brunner, Eidgen. Stern-Warte, Zurich, Switzerland]

December 1937	Relative numbers	December 1937	Relative numbers	December 1937	Relative numbers
1.....	14	11.....	Ec 72	21.....	86
2.....	Wc 33	12.....	70	22.....	Ecd 90
3.....	.....	13.....	Mc 107	23.....	Ec 107
4.....	.....	14.....	Macd 112	24.....	.....
5.....	55	15.....	Wac 141	25.....	a.....
6.....	.....	16.....	Ec 155	26.....	.....
7.....	.....	17.....	.....	27.....	aa 125
8.....	.....	18.....	109	28.....	a 103
9.....	.....	19.....	.....	29.....	Mc 113
10.....	56	20.....	b 107	30.....	Mc 111
				31.....	ad 112

Mean, 21 days = 95.3

a = Passage of an average-sized group through the central meridian.

b = Passage of a large group or spot through the central meridian.

c = New formation of a group developing into a middle sized or large center of activity zone.

E: on the eastern part of the sun's disc; W: on the western part; M: in the central circle zone.

d = Entrance of a large or average-sized center of activity on the east limb.

by 4° C. to 8° C. over the northern part of the country. This difference in temperature between the 2 months decreased toward the south, however, and amounted to only 1° to 3° C. over the southern part of the country. The greatest decrease in the mean temperature occurred over Fargo at 0.5 kilometer where the value for December (-12.3° C.) was 9.1° C. lower than that for November (-3.2° C.).

The mean free-air relative humidities, shown in table 2, were above normal over most of the country at all levels. Minus departures were confined largely to the Northeastern States in the lower levels and to Pensacola at all except the 0.5 kilometer level. The greatest positive departure (+14 percent) occurred over San Diego at 3 kilometers while the greatest negative departure (-11 percent) occurred over Pensacola at both 3 and 5 kilometers.

The mean free-air barometric pressures are shown in table 3. In general there was a decrease in the average pressures for December as compared with those for November except that in the lower levels there were small increases of 1 to 2 millibars at most stations. The mean free-air isobaric charts, as drawn from the values in table 3, were characterized by well-defined statistical centers of low pressure over the region of the Great Lakes; the lowest mean pressures for the entire country occurring at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., at all levels. The highest mean pressures occurred over Pensacola, Fla., at all levels. Over the eastern part of the country there was a pronounced steepening of the south to north pressure gradient in December as compared with November but a slight decrease in gradient occurred over the western part of the country.

Free-air resultant winds, based on pilot-balloon observations made near 5 a.m. (75th meridian time), are shown in table 4. In general the resultant directions were re-

markably close to the normal at nearly all stations and at all levels. The most outstanding exceptions occurred at San Diego where the current directions at 0.5 and 1 kilometer were E. (93°) and ESE. (123°), respectively, while the corresponding normal directions are N. (2°) and NNW. (344°). Resultant velocities were for the most part, near normal. The greatest positive departure from normal (+6.0 m. p. s.) occurred over Nashville at 2.5 kilometers and the greatest negative departure (-3.9 m. p. s.) occurred over San Diego at 5 kilometers.

Table 5 shows the maximum free-air wind velocities and their directions for various sections of the United States during December as determined by pilot-balloon observations. The extreme maximum for the month was 80.4 meters per second from the northeast at an altitude of 5,520 meters above sea level over Las Vegas, Nev.

The mean monthly specific humidities and equivalent potential temperatures for the month are shown in tables 2 and 3, respectively. There was a decrease in the average specific humidities of December as compared with November over the greater portion of the country in the lower levels. In the upper levels, however, most of the southern stations showed either no change or slight increases. The greatest decrease (-1.8 grams) occurred over Maxwell Field at 0.5 kilometer and the greatest increase (+0.7 gram) occurred over San Diego at 3 kilometers. The mean

equivalent potential temperatures for December were lower than for November by amounts ranging from 2° A. over San Diego to 13° A. over Fargo at 0.5 kilometer and ranging between 1° A. over San Diego to 6° A. over Sault Ste. Marie at 5 kilometers. The lowest mean specific humidities and equivalent potential temperatures occurred over Fargo in the lower levels and over Sault Ste. Marie in the upper levels. The highest mean specific humidities occurred over San Diego at all levels up to 4 kilometers. The highest equivalent potential temperatures likewise occurred over San Diego up to 3 kilometers and over Pensacola at 4 and 5 kilometers.

The weather for the month over the eastern part of the country was dominated largely by the frequent passage of rather cold and dry P_P air masses and by relatively few invasions of T_A air. Consequently both the mean temperature and average precipitation were below normal over that area. Over the western part of the country the weather was influenced greatly by the development of large and unusually deep low pressure areas over the north Pacific Ocean during two different periods of the month; the circulation about these Lows brought in great quantities of warm moist T_P air over the Pacific coast and Rocky Mountain regions. This accounted largely for the high average temperatures and excess precipitation which occurred over that part of the country during the month.

TABLE 1.—Mean free-air temperatures (*t*), °C. obtained by airplanes during December 1937. ("Dep." represents departure from "normal" temperature)

Stations	Number of obs.	Altitude (meters) m. s. l.																		
		Surface		500		1,000		1,500		2,000		2,500		3,000		4,000		5,000		
		<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	<i>t</i>	Dep.	
Barksdale Field ¹ (Shreveport), La. (52 m.)	19	5.4	-	5.5	-	4.8	-	3.6	-	2.2	-	0.0	-	-1.4	-	-6.7	-	-	-	
Billings, Mont. ¹ (1,090 m.)	31	-3.3	-0.8	-	-	-	-	-0.4	-0.5	-2.2	-0.8	-5.1	-0.9	-8.2	-0.7	-14.5	-0.7	-21.0	-0.6	
Boston, Mass. ¹ (6 m.)	22	-2.7	-0.6	-4.6	-1.7	-5.8	-1.6	-6.6	-1.5	-7.3	-1.1	-8.5	-0.5	-10.3	-0.1	-15.5	-0.3	-	-	
Cheyenne, Wyo. ¹ (1,873 m.)	81	-3.5	+0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-2.1	-0.2	-2.7	-0.8	-4.7	-0.2	-10.7	-0.3	-17.5	-0.3	
Chicago, Ill. ¹ (187 m.)	29	-4.3	-2.2	-5.0	-3.0	-5.1	-2.8	-5.1	-2.5	-6.3	-2.7	-7.7	-2.7	-9.7	-2.4	-13.7	-1.4	-19.3	-0.8	
Coco Solo, Canal Zone ¹ (15 m.)	19	24.6	-	22.9	-	20.4	-	17.7	-	15.1	-	12.9	-	10.5	-	4.6	-	-1.5	-	
El Paso, Tex. ¹ (1,194 m.)	31	4.4	+0.6	-	-	-	-	6.7	+0.1	4.6	-0.8	2.6	-0.6	0.5	-0.5	-4.8	-0.4	-11.4	-0.7	
Fargo, N. Dak. ¹ (274 m.)	31	-13.9	-1.6	-12.3	-1.1	-9.2	-0.4	-8.7	-1.2	-9.3	-1.1	-10.8	-0.8	-12.9	-0.7	-18.0	-0.4	-23.7	+0.1	
Kelly Field (San Antonio), Tex. ¹ (206 m.)	8	9.7	-	9.7	-	8.1	-	6.8	-	5.6	-	3.3	-	1.8	-	-3.6	-	-10.4	-	
Lakehurst, N. J. ¹ (38 m.)	22	-1.3	+0.3	-1.6	0.0	-3.1	0.0	-3.9	0.0	-6.1	-0.7	-7.0	-0.3	-10.5	-0.7	-16.7	-1.5	-20.4	+0.4	
Maxwell Field (Montgomery), Ala. ¹ (52 m.)	28	6.9	+1.6	6.9	+0.1	5.9	-0.3	5.3	-0.4	3.9	-0.6	2.2	-0.7	0.5	-0.3	-4.6	+0.1	-10.5	-0.2	
Mitchel Field (Hempstead, Long Island), N. Y. ¹ (29 m.)	27	-0.7	+0.9	-1.9	+0.4	-3.2	+0.4	-4.3	+0.1	-5.4	+0.3	-6.7	+0.8	-8.6	+1	-14.0	+1.1	-	-	
Nashville, Tenn. ¹ (180 m.) ²	30	2.7	+0.9	2.8	0.0	1.7	-0.3	0.2	-0.8	-0.9	-0.9	-2.5	-0.5	-4.5	-0.4	-9.0	-0.3	-15.4	-0.4	
Norfolk, Va. ¹ (10 m.)	20	2.3	-1.7	2.7	-0.6	1.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.8	0.0	-2.0	+0.6	-3.9	+0.7	-7.7	+1.5	-12.3	+2.3	
Oakland, Calif. ¹ (2 m.) ³	31	9.0	+0.7	11.8	+1.5	10.6	+1.5	8.9	+1.4	6.4	+1.3	3.8	+1.1	1.0	+1.0	-5.4	+0.9	-12.3	+0.7	
Oklahoma City, Okla. ¹ (391 m.)	27	1.4	-0.6	2.5	-0.8	3.5	-1.5	2.7	-1.3	1.7	-0.7	0.1	-0.3	-2.0	-0.1	-7.0	+0.4	-13.3	+0.9	
Omaha, Nebr. ¹ (300 m.)	31	-4.9	-0.7	-4.4	-1.0	-3.0	-1.2	-3.2	-2.3	-2.3	-4.0	-2.0	-5.6	-1.5	-7.6	-1.1	-13.5	-1.2	-19.9	-1.1
Pearl Harbor, T. H. ¹ (6 m.)	31	20.6	-1.5	20.6	+0.5	17.3	+1.0	14.4	+0.9	12.8	+1.1	11.3	+1.4	9.4	+1.9	4.1	+2.2	-2.0	+1.7	
Pensacola, Fla. ¹ (13 m.)	23	8.3	-0.7	9.5	-0.4	9.2	-0.4	8.4	-0.2	7.2	-0.1	5.5	+0.1	3.7	-1	-0.1	-6.5	+0.6	-	
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands ¹ (8 m.)	31	25.7	-	21.3	-	17.6	-	14.6	-	13.2	-	12.1	-	9.8	-	4.6	-	-1.7	-	
Salt Lake City, Utah ¹ (1,288 m.)	31	-0.4	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	-	0.5	-	-2.0	-	-4.4	-	-9.3	-	-15.6	-	
San Diego, Calif. ¹ (10 m.)	31	10.3	-1.6	14.3	+1.1	12.7	+0.6	9.8	-0.1	7.6	-0.1	6.1	-0.2	2.4	-0.4	-3.5	-0.3	-9.8	-0.1	
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. ¹ (221 m.)	28	-8.9	-	-9.2	-	-10.9	-	-11.6	-	-12.1	-	-14.1	-	-15.8	-	-20.3	-	-26.2	-	
Scott Field (Belleville), Ill. ¹ (135 m.)	13	-4.5	-	-4.5	-	-4.8	-	-5.6	-	-5.9	-	-7.1	-	-8.8	-	-12.9	-	-19.3	-	
Seattle, Wash. ¹ (10 m.)	8	6.0	-	5.1	-	2.9	-	1.3	-	-0.5	-	-3.4	-	-6.0	-	-12.0	-	-	-	
Selfridge Field (Mount Clemens), Mich. ¹ (177 m.)	25	-6.1	-1.9	-6.3	-2.9	-7.9	-3.5	-9.4	-4.2	-10.3	-3.8	-11.3	-3.2	-13.2	-3.0	-18.0	-3.1	-23.6	-2.8	
Spokane, Wash. ¹ (697 m.)	31	0.7	+0.5	-	-	-	-	-0.9	-1.1	-2.4	-2.2	-4.3	-2.7	-6.7	-2.9	-9.5	-2.9	-15.8	-3.0	
Washington, D. C. ¹ (13 m.)	30	0.8	+0.1	1.4	+0.6	-0.1	+0.6	-1.4	+0.4	-2.2	+0.5	-4.0	+0.4	-6.4	-0.1	-11.4	-0.5	-17.1	-0.7	
Wright Field (Dayton), Ohio ¹ (244 m.)	17	-4.6	-0.7	-4.4	-1.0	-4.6	-1.3	-4.6	-0.9	-6.1	-1.0	-7.7	-0.8	-9.6	-0.7	-13.8	-0.6	-19.3	-0.3	

¹ Army.

² Weather Bureau.

³ Navy.

December 1937.—Observations taken about 4 a. m. 75th meridian time, except by Navy stations along the Pacific coast and Hawaii where they are taken at dawn.

NOTE.—The departures are based on normals covering the following total number of observations made during the same month in previous years, including the current month (years of record are given in parentheses following the number of observations): Billings, 123 (4); Boston, 126 (6); Cheyenne, 124 (4); Chicago, 87 (3); El Paso, 93 (3); Fargo, 119 (4); Lakehurst, 93 (4); Maxwell Field, 98 (4); Mitchel Field, 97 (4); Nashville, #112 (4); Norfolk, 101 (5); Oakland, #81 (3); Oklahoma City, 114 (4); Omaha, 208 (7); Pearl Harbor, 137 (5); Pensacola, 171 (8); San Diego, 220 (9); Selfridge Field, 79 (3); Spokane, 116 (4); Washington, 164 (7); Wright Field, 82 (4).

^aCombined with Murfreesboro data (ending June 26, 1937).

^bCombined with Sunnyvale data (ending September 1935).

TABLE 2.—Mean free-air relative humidities (*R. H.*), in percent, and specific humidities (*q*), in grams/kilogram, obtained by airplanes during December 1937. (Dep. represents departure from "normal" relative humidity)

Stations	Altitude (meters) m. s. l.																														
	Surface				500		1,000		1,500		2,000		2,500		3,000		4,000		5,000												
	Number of observations	q	R. H. Mean	R. H. Dep.	q	R. H. Mean	R. H. Dep.	q	R. H. Mean	R. H. Dep.	q	R. H. Mean	R. H. Dep.	q	R. H. Mean	R. H. Dep.	q	R. H. Mean	R. H. Dep.												
Barksdale Field, La.	19	4.2	77	... +3	3.7	63	... -	3.4	57	... -	3.4	59	... -	2.8	51	... -	2.5	49	... -	2.2	44	... -	1.4	38	... -						
Billings, Mont.	31	2.4	71	... +3	2.0	71	... +2	1.9	69	... +1	1.9	69	... +5	2.5	57	... 0	2.3	56	... +1	2.0	58	... +1	1.8	61	... +1	1.2	60	... +1	0.8	59	... +2
Boston, Mass.	22	2.2	72	... +1	2.0	71	... +2	1.9	69	... +1	1.9	69	... +5	2.8	66	... -	2.8	66	... +5	1.7	66	... 0	1.6	60	... +5	1.3	55	... +1	1.0	52	... 0
Cheyenne, Wyo.	31	2.7	72	... +7	2.7	74	... +	2.1	74	... +3	1.9	65	... +2	1.8	61	... -	1.6	58	... +4	1.5	55	... +5	1.5	57	... +5	1.0	55	... +5			
Chicago, Ill.	29	2.4	84	0	2.8	88	... +3	2.1	74	... +3	1.9	65	... +2	1.8	61	... -	1.4	58	... +4	1.5	55	... +5	1.2	54	... +6	0.8	55	... +11			
Coco Solo, Canal Zone	19	17.8	93	...	16.8	91	...	14.5	87	...	12.5	84	...	10.9	81	...	8.2	67	...	6.4	58	...	4.5	53	...	3.0	49	...			
El Paso, Tex.	31	4.5	77	... +4	4.5	75	... -	4.3	58	... -	3.6	56	... +4	3.2	53	... -	2.6	48	... +4	1.7	41	... +5	1.0	37	... +5						
Fargo, N. Dak.	31	1.0	75	-6	1.2	75	-3	1.5	69	-2	1.6	64	+1	1.6	63	+5	1.5	62	+6	1.3	62	+9	0.9	59	+8	0.6	58	+9			
Kelly Field, Tex.	8	6.4	80	...	6.4	71	...	5.9	74	...	5.7	74	...	4.9	66	...	4.6	69	...	4.2	66	...	2.6	59	...	2.4	73	...			
Lakehurst, N. J.	22	2.5	72	-3	2.3	63	-5	2.1	61	-5	1.8	54	-4	1.7	54	0	1.6	54	0	1.3	55	+3	0.9	54	+5	0.7	57	+5			
Maxwell Field, Ala.	28	4.7	75	-2	4.0	62	-2	3.9	60	-2	3.4	50	-3	3.1	49	+7	2.6	44	+6	2.5	45	+8	2.0	45	+10	1.4	43	+10			
Mitchell Field, N. Y.	27	2.6	74	-3	2.4	70	-2	2.2	67	-1	2.0	62	-1	1.8	56	+1	1.7	53	+1	1.5	49	+1	1.1	52	+6	1.2	52	+6			
Nashville, Tenn.	30	3.8	81	-2	3.8	77	+3	3.6	76	+3	3.1	73	-8	2.8	62	+9	2.5	59	+9	2.2	58	+12	1.8	56	+12	1.0	50	+8			
Norfolk, Va.	30	3.3	75	+4	3.0	62	0	2.8	57	0	2.5	55	+4	2.3	52	+7	2.1	48	+5	1.8	46	+6	1.3	42	+8	1.0	41	+10			
Oakland, Calif.	31	6.0	85	+7	5.8	62	-2	5.0	56	-2	4.0	48	-2	3.5	47	0	3.0	43	0	2.2	39	-2	1.5	36	-2	1.0	39	0			
Oklahoma City, Okla.	27	3.7	84	+2	3.7	76	0	3.4	63	+3	3.3	60	+3	3.0	55	+4	2.7	51	+4	2.2	47	+4	1.5	43	+3	1.0	40	+2			
Omaha, Nebr.	31	2.2	84	-1	2.3	79	-1	2.4	71	-1	2.3	66	+10	2.1	59	+8	1.9	58	+10	1.8	57	+10	1.2	58	+12	0.8	55	+10			
Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii	23	12.0	86	+7	11.9	75	-11	10.7	78	-2	9.2	78	-2	7.1	61	0	5.2	46	-3	3.7	35	-6	2.0	25	-7	1.3	23	-5			
Pensacola, Fla.	23	5.7	86	+1	5.8	78	+1	5.0	63	-2	4.6	56	-2	3.6	45	-6	2.8	38	-10	2.4	34	-11	1.7	31	-9	1.1	28	-11			
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands	31	15.4	78	-14.8	89	-13.1	94	-10.9	89	-8.3	70	-5.4	48	-3.8	37	-2.8	65	-2.4	60	-1.7	53	-1.5	18	-1.0	16	-1.0	16				
Salt Lake City, Utah	31	3.6	86	...	3.6	73	...	3.8	73	...	3.3	67	...	3.0	65	...	2.8	65	...	2.4	60	...	1.7	53	...	1.1	53	...			
San Diego, Calif.	31	6.5	84	+12	7.0	66	-5	6.0	59	-8	5.0	55	+9	4.1	50	+10	3.4	47	+11	3.0	46	+14	1.9	41	+12	1.1	38	+9			
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.	28	1.7	83	1.8	85	1.6	83	1.4	71	1.2	61	1.0	62	1.0	62	1.0	62	0.7	62	0.6	54	0.5	46	0.4	55	0.4	46	0.7	42		
Scott Field, Ill.	13	1.9	71	1.7	60	1.6	54	1.6	54	1.7	55	1.7	56	1.5	55	1.0	46	1.0	46	0.7	46	0.7	42	0.7	42	0.7	42	0.7	42		
Seattle, Wash.	8	5.0	87	0	4.6	80	3.7	72	3.4	67	2.6	55	1.9	49	1.5	44	0.8	34	0.8	34	0.8	34	0.8	34	0.8	34	0.8	34			
Selfridge Field, Mich.	25	2.1	85	0	2.0	82	+2	1.7	74	0	1.5	69	+6	1.4	63	+7	1.2	55	+7	1.0	53	+6	0.8	51	+6	0.6	51	+5			
Spokane, Wash.	31	3.6	86	0	3.5	83	+1	3.2	82	+5	2.6	74	+4	2.1	68	+1	1.8	66	+1	1.2	65	+5	0.7	62	+5	0.5	62	+5			
Washington, D. C.	30	2.9	72	0	2.7	62	-3	2.5	60	-1	2.5	62	+3	2.4	60	+6	2.2	57	+7	1.8	54	+9	1.1	44	+1	0.7	38	-1			
Wright Field, Ohio	17	2.2	81	-1	2.3	76	-2	2.0	64	-4	1.8	57	0	1.7	56	+4	1.7	57	+7	1.5	55	+8	1.2	57	+11	0.8	51	+7			

TABLE 3.—Mean free-air barometric pressures (P), in mb, and equivalent potential temperatures (Θ_e), in $^{\circ}A.$, obtained by airplanes during December 1937

Station	Number of ob- ser- vations	Altitude (meters) m. s. l.																
		Surface		500		1,000		1,500		2,000		2,500		3,000		4,000		5,000
		P	θε	P	θε	P	θε	P	θε	P	θε	P	θε	P	θε	P	θε	
Barksdale Field, La.	19	1,018	289	963	202	906	296	852	300	801	302	753	304	707	307	623	309	
Billings, Mont.	31	891	286	-----	-----	-----	-----	846	293	795	297	746	298	700	299	614	302	537
Boston, Mass.	22	1,019	275	957	277	898	281	842	285	790	290	741	293	695	296	609	301	-----
Cheyenne, Wyo.	31	810	295	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	797	298	748	302	702	304	617	307	541
Chicago, Ill.	29	998	275	959	277	900	282	844	287	792	291	742	294	696	297	610	303	536
Coco Solo, Canal Zone	19	1,008	347	954	348	901	344	850	341	802	340	755	335	712	333	630	302	557
El Paso, Tex.	31	884	300	-----	-----	-----	-----	851	306	801	307	753	309	707	311	624	313	548
Fargo, N. Dak.	31	986	263	958	267	897	276	841	282	788	287	738	291	692	293	606	298	529
Kelly Field, Tex.	8	999	300	965	302	908	306	854	309	804	311	755	313	710	316	626	317	551
Lakehurst, N. J.	22	1,017	277	958	281	900	284	844	288	793	290	743	294	697	296	611	299	535
Maxwell Field, Ala.	28	1,017	291	964	294	907	298	853	302	802	304	753	307	708	310	624	314	549
Mitchel Field, N. Y.	27	1,017	278	958	281	900	285	844	288	792	292	743	295	697	298	611	302	301
Nashville, Tenn.	30	1,001	286	962	290	904	293	850	296	798	299	749	301	703	305	618	309	543
Norfolk, Va.	20	1,022	292	962	287	903	291	849	293	798	298	748	301	703	304	618	309	544
Oakland, Calif.	31	1,019	297	960	304	904	307	851	307	801	308	752	310	708	310	623	312	548
Oklahoma City, Okla.	27	975	287	962	289	905	294	850	299	799	302	750	305	705	307	620	310	546
Omaha, Nebr.	31	985	275	960	273	902	285	846	290	794	294	745	297	699	300	613	303	537
Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii	31	1,014	328	955	331	904	320	852	328	802	328	755	324	711	323	629	323	556
Pensacola, Fla.	23	1,023	295	964	301	908	305	854	308	804	309	756	310	710	313	627	316	553
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands	31	1,015	341	959	340	905	336	853	333	804	329	757	325	713	324	632	322	558
Salt Lake City, Utah	31	874	204	-----	-----	-----	-----	852	299	800	301	751	303	704	305	618	309	542
San Diego, Calif.	31	1,016	300	959	311	904	312	850	311	801	312	753	313	708	314	625	315	550
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.	28	990	270	955	272	895	275	838	279	785	283	735	286	688	289	601	295	524
Scott Field, Ill.	13	1,005	273	959	277	900	281	844	286	791	291	742	295	696	298	611	303	537
Seattle, Wash.	8	1,021	291	962	294	904	294	850	297	798	298	748	299	703	300	617	302	302
Selfridge Field, Mich.	25	969	273	958	276	899	278	842	281	790	286	739	289	603	292	607	297	530
Spokane, Wash.	31	949	288	-----	-----	903	290	847	293	795	295	745	296	700	298	613	300	537
Washington, D. C.	30	1,022	280	962	285	903	288	848	292	797	296	748	299	702	300	616	304	541
Wright Field, Ohio	17	994	275	962	278	902	282	846	287	794	290	744	294	698	297	612	302	536

TABLE 4.—Free-air resultant winds (meters per second) based on pilot-balloon observations made near 5 a. m. (E. S. T.) during December 1937
[Wind from N=360°, E=90°, etc.]

Altitude (m) m. s. l.	Albuquerque, N. Mex. (1,554 m)	Atlanta, Ga. (309 m)	Billings, Mont. (1,088 m)	Boston, Mass. (15 m)	Cheyenne, Wyo. (1,873 m)	Chicago, Ill. (192 m)	Cincinnati, Ohio (153 m)	Detroit, Mich. (204 m)	Fargo, N. Dak. (274 m)	Houston, Tex. (21 m)	Key West, Fla. (11 m)	Medford, Oreg. (410 m)	Nashville, Tenn. (194 m)
	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity
Surface.....	354 1.0	319 1.8	262 3.9	295 2.5	274 3.5	261 1.9	221 1.0	256 2.5	321 1.2	46 1.8	50 3.3	137 0.6	226 0.9
500.....	295 2.2	302 5.9	259 3.9	234 3.6	263 4.1	308 1.8	111 3.0	79 6.2	137 1.6	239 5.6	103 4.8	185 3.9	261 8.2
1,000.....	273 4.1	299 7.8	279 5.0	272 6.9	275 7.5	308 4.2	170 6.2	280 5.1	124 2.3	220 7.3	271 9.5	276 10.6	285 14.6
1,500.....	268 4.9	292 9.3	273 7.9	269 8.8	286 6.8	298 6.2	284 8.5	300 5.4	280 5.7	127 1.1	235 10.6	276 9.9	285 14.6
2,000.....	315 3.5	286 7.3	281 8.4	286 10.1	282 5.1	274 10.0	284 8.2	290 10.6	275 7.9	317 1.1	235 10.6	276 9.9	285 14.6
2,500.....	303 5.9	292 9.6	283 9.8	279 12.4	293 9.8	280 8.3	288 8.5	291 13.0	247 9.2	310 1.7	235 10.6	276 9.9	285 14.6
3,000.....	294 6.7	282 12.9	279 11.6	253 15.3	292 11.3	280 10.0	284 11.6	291 13.0	247 9.2	310 1.7	235 10.6	276 9.9	285 14.6
4,000.....	296 10.4	291 12.9	291 12.9	272 9.3	291 12.9	272 9.3	291 12.9	272 9.3	291 12.9	272 9.3	291 12.9	272 9.3	291 12.9
5,000.....	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2	290 8.2
Altitude (m) m. s. l.	Newark, N. J. (14 m)	Oakland, Calif. (8 m)	Oklahoma City, Okla. (402 m)	Omaha, Nebr. (306 m)	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (68 m)	Pensacola, Fla. (24 m)	St. Louis, Mo. (170 m)	Salt Lake City, Utah (1,294 m)	San Diego, Calif. (15 m)	Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. (198 m)	Seattle, Wash. (14 m)	Spokane, Wash. (603 m)	Washington, D. C. (10 m)
Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity
Surface.....	281 2.4	79 1.5	282 0.1	314 2.0	4 1.7	19 2.5	247 2.2	168 2.2	46 0.7	285 0.5	152 1.7	192 2.0	312 1.2
500.....	308 7.6	18 2.2	343 1.0	315 3.4	71 2.4	40 3.2	260 5.9	93 1.1	291 2.2	196 5.4	297 6.0	288 7.4	270 9.0
1,000.....	288 8.7	14 3.0	303 4.9	304 6.4	100 2.4	271 2.8	274 9.3	123 0.8	307 5.2	212 3.7	193 3.6	218 8.0	273 10.6
1,500.....	282 13.2	332 1.9	302 6.9	306 8.1	115 1.3	293 4.9	276 9.4	187 3.0	318 1.4	325 4.2	236 4.8	218 8.0	275 13.3
2,000.....	265 14.1	308 1.9	298 8.4	300 9.5	301 0.6	305 5.1	290 11.9	224 2.6	343 2.6	256 5.5	231 9.5	273 10.6	275 13.3
2,500.....	262 13.1	286 2.4	299 9.5	294 10.1	354 1.8	291 5.6	284 14.3	261 3.7	330 3.2	251 9.4	276 11.3	275 13.3	275 13.3
3,000.....	295 3.1	300 10.1	300 11.1	318 1.9	298 12.7	274 6.0	349 4.1	293 6.5	356 6.5	274 6.0	275 13.3	275 13.3	275 13.3
4,000.....	270 7.3	270 7.3	270 7.3	305 6.6	297 10.6	318 6.6	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5
5,000.....	270 7.3	270 7.3	270 7.3	297 10.6	272 9.3	318 6.6	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5	323 6.5

¹ Navy stations.

TABLE 5.—Maximum free-air wind velocities (meters per second) for different sections of the United States, based on pilot balloon observations during December 1937

Section	Surface to 2,500 meters (m. s. l.)				Between 2,500 and 5,000 meters (m. s. l.)				Above 5,000 meters (m. s. l.)						
	Maximum velocity	Direction	Altitude (m), m. s. l.	Date	Station	Maximum velocity	Direction	Altitude (m), m. s. l.	Date	Station	Maximum velocity	Direction	Altitude (m), m. s. l.	Date	Station
Northeast ¹	36.0	NNW	1,360	14	Boston, Mass.	36.4	WSW	4,600	12	Boston, Mass.	36.0	WSW	6,280	1	Cleveland, Ohio.
East Central ¹	32.7	SW	1,360	18	Washington, D. C.	42.0	WSW	4,890	19	Knoxville, Tenn.	42.2	WSW	5,070	19	Knoxville, Tenn.
Southeast ¹	26.8	WSW	1,720	23	Jacksonville, Fla.	38.0	WSW	4,480	9	Spartanburg, S. C.	33.1	WNW	6,480	12	Charleston, S. C.
North Central ¹	38.8	NNW	1,870	31	Bismarck, N. Dak.	35.2	WNW	2,530	25	Fargo, N. Dak.	43.1	NNW	6,850	10	Fargo, N. Dak.
Central ¹	35.8	W	2,500	8	Evansville, Ind.	41.6	W	3,820	25	Omaha, Nebr.	40.5	WNW	6,160	9	Omaha, Nebr.
South Central ¹	30.5	W	1,360	22	Brownsville, Tex.	37.1	WSW	4,810	24	Fort Worth, Tex.	45.4	W	6,610	18	Amarillo, Tex.
Northwest ¹	39.3	SW	1,770	26	Spokane, Wash.	43.4	NNW	5,000	21	Pendleton, Oreg.	49.0	NNW	5,580	21	Pendleton, Oreg.
West Central ¹	52.5	WSW	2,480	27	Cheyenne, Wyo.	52.2	WSW	2,670	27	Cheyenne, Wyo.	66.0	WNW	11,290	30	Redding, Calif.
Southwest ¹	41.4	SW	1,550	26	Havre, Mont.	64.2	NNE	3,910	20	Burbank, Calif.	80.4	NE	5,520	20	Las Vegas, Nev.

¹ Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and northern Ohio.

² Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, southern Ohio, Kentucky, eastern Tennessee, and North Carolina.

³ South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama.

⁴ Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

¹ Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri.

² Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas (except El Paso), and western Tennessee.

³ Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.

⁴ Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, northern Nevada, and northern California.

⁵ Southern California, southern Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and extreme west Texas.

AEROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1937

[Aerological Division, D. M. LITTLE in Charge]

By LOYD A. STEVENS

In tables 1 to 3 below are shown the mean free-air temperatures, relative humidities, specific humidities, and equivalent potential temperatures obtained by airplane observations during the year 1937. Departures from normal for mean temperatures and relative humidities are given for nine stations where the length of record is 3 or more years. (See footnote to table.) Similar departures for specific humidity and equivalent potential temperature are not shown as these elements were not computed and tabulated previous to January 1937.

Due to the relatively short period on which the normal data are based at most stations, too much dependence should not be placed in the departures therefrom.

A summary of the aerological activities of the Weather Bureau during the year 1937 follows: Regular airplane flights were maintained at 12 stations in continental United States by private operators under contract with the Weather Bureau. Similar flights were made by the War Department in cooperation with the Weather Bureau at eight stations and by the Navy Department at nine